

WI-186  
Leatherbury-Dashiell House  
Whitehaven  
Private

c. 1890

The Leatherbury-Dashiell house occupies an important corner lot in the village of Whitehaven. Standing on the southwest corner of the intersection of Whitehaven Road and River Street, the two-story ell-shaped Victorian structure serves as an important historic and visual anchor to the line of nineteenth century dwellings that define Whitehaven's waterfront. Estimated to date to the early 1890s, the house was designed with an asymmetrical front featuring a two-story, three-sided bay pavilion. Two-over-two sash windows light the first and second floors, and small colored glass windows pierce the gable ends.

Chain of title research for this corner lot traces the ownership of the property to Robert L. Leatherbury, who held title to this lot, "together with improvements" in May 1893 when he sold it to James L. and Matilda F. Leatherbury for \$250.(JTT 11/303) James and Matilda Leatherbury retained ownership of the corner lot and house until September 1905 when they transferred title to James H. Dashiell for \$400.(EAT 47/154) The corner lot and house remained in the hands of James and Ella Dashiell for the subsequent fifteen years. Another long-time owner was Allie M. Messick, who held title to the property between 1921 and 1942. The current owners, James A. and Joan M. Conway, purchased the property in 1972.(780/36)

# HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: LEATHERBURY-DASHIELL HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: WI-186

## MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
- 2) Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
- 3) Chronological/Development Period(s):  
Industrial-Urban Dominance  
1870-1930
- 4) Resource Type(s): Single dwelling

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-186

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic LEATHERBURY-DASHIELL HOUSE

and/or common CONWAY HOUSE

## 2. Location

street & number 23858 River Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Whitehaven ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. and Mrs. James A. Conway, Jr.

street & number 23858 River Street telephone no.:

city, town Whitehaven state and zip code MD 21873

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 780 Map 65

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 605 P. 41

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. WI-186

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Historically identified as the Leatherbury-Dashiell house, and currently known as the Conway house, this two-story ell-shaped frame dwelling stands at 23858 River Street with the south (main) elevation facing the Wicomico River in the village of Whitehaven, Wicomico County, Maryland.

Estimated to date to around 1890, the two-story ell-shaped frame house is supported on a low brick foundation, and the dwelling is uniformly sheathed with vinyl siding. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The south (main) facade is an asymmetrical elevation with a centered entrance covered by an enclosed shed-roof front porch, which extends around the east gable end of the house. The front door is partially glazed, and two-over-two sash windows light the first and second floors. To the left of the front door is a two-story, three-sided bay pavilion pierced with two-over-two sash windows on each face. A small colored glass window marks the gable end. Rising through the center of the house is a single flue stove chimney.

The east gable end is partially covered by the single-story enclosed porch. The second floor is marked by a single two-over-two sash window, and the gable end is pierced by a small colored glass light. The gable end is finished with a slightly extended eave that forms a shallow pediment.

The west side of the house is distinguished by a decorative single-story screened-in porch marked with Victorian sawn brackets. Extending to the back (north) is a two-story one-bay by one-room service wing, which has a two-story shed roofed addition attached to its west side.

The interior was not seen.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-186

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

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The Leatherbury-Dashiell house falls into Category B, a designation that identifies structures that exhibit good architectural details representing an architectural development and style, and supporting the character of the district.



WI-186  
LEATHERBURY-DASHIELL HOUSE  
Whitehaven, Maryland  
Chain of title

780/36                      Edward B. Kenney  
                             Dale Martin Kenney

to

12/5/1972                  James A. Conway, Jr.  
                             Joan M. Conway

JWTS 633/166              Minnie C. Kenney, Widow

to

6/20/1966                  Donald Franklin Kenney  
                             James Francis Kenney  
                             Edward B. Kenney  
                             Dale Martin Kenney

JWTS                        Lucy J. Hostetter  
528/548                    Garry B. Hostetter

to

12/20/1961                Edward S. Kenney  
                             Minnie C. Kenney

JAH 5/236                  Lawrence J. Robertson

to

11/29/1955                Lucy P. Robertson  
                             (Lucy J. Hostetter)

JWS 242/456               Allie M. Messick, widow

to

8/25/1942                  Lawrence J. Robertson

WI-186  
LEATHERBURY-DASHIELL HOUSE  
Whitehaven, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

JCK 124/1                      George M. Messick, et al.

to

8/26/1921                      Allie M. Messick

JCK 118/162                   James H. Dashiell  
Ella V. W. Dashiell

to

5/15/1920                      George H. Messick

EAT 47/154                      Robert L. Leatherbury

to

9/1/1905                      James H. Dashiell  
\$400.00

JTT 11/303                      James L. Leatherbury  
Matilda F. Leatherbury

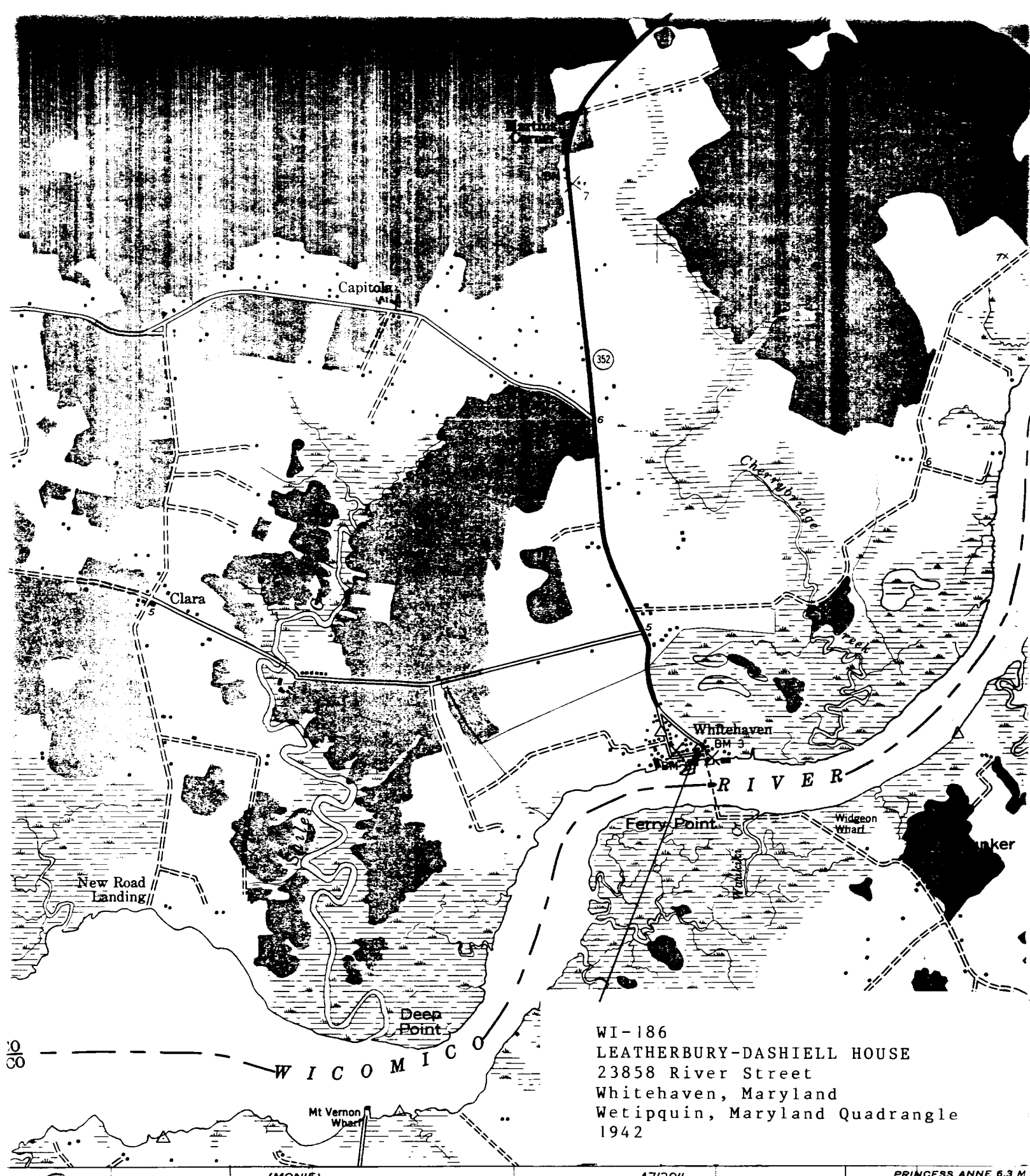
to

5/24/1893                      Robert L. Leatherbury  
\$250.00 "together with improvements"



[illegible]

WI-186  
LEATHERBURY-DASHIELL HOUSE  
23858 River Street  
Wicomico County Tax Map 65  
Parcel 41



WI-186  
 LEATHERBURY-DASHIELL HOUSE  
 23858 River Street  
 Whitehaven, Maryland  
 Wetipquin, Maryland Quadrangle  
 1942

1 MILE

WI-186





WI-196

LEATHERBURY - DASHIEL HOUSE

WINTERBORN, WILSON CO. MD.

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

9/94, PAUL TOUCHET, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEC. / M.D. IT SHOWS THE TOWER



WI-196

LEATHURBURY - DASHILL HOUSE

WHITEHAREN, WICOMICO COUNTY, MD.

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

9/94, PAUL TOWNSEND, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / M.D. HISTORICAL TRUST